MINUTES

—OF THE—

SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION

—OF THE—

Mississippi Annual Conference

—OF THE—

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,

—HELD AT—

MERIDIAN, MISS., DEC. 17--22, 1879.

BISHOP H. H. KAVENAUGH.....PRESIDING.
C. G. ANDREWS, D. D.....SECRETARY.

MERIDIAN, MISS.:
SHANNON & POWELL, STEAM JOB PRINTERS.
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PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

MISSISSIPPI ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

MERIDIAN, MISS., Dec. 17, 1879.

The Sixty-Sixth Session of the Mississippi Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was begun and held in Meridian, Mississippi, December 17–22, 1879.

Bishop Hubbard Hinde Kavanaugh called the Conference to order at 8, a. m., and conducted religious services by reading 20th chapter Acts, 17–38 verses ; singing 272d hymn and prayer.

The roll was called by Rev. J. A. B. Jones, the Assistant Secretary of last year. The following members were present during the session, their names being recorded according to the date of their admission, readmission or transfer into the Conference, viz: J. G. Jones, W. H. Watkins, E. R. Strickland, J. Nicholson, J. L. Forsythe, R. A. Sibley, J. A. Godfrey, A. B. Nicholson, J. A. B. Jones, J. H. Shelton, W. B. Hines, D. W. Dillehay, G. F. Thompson, R. Abbey, J. A. Vance, C. G. Andrews, W. B. Lewis, N B Young, L Kendall, H F Johnson, E H Mounger, C W Campbell, I B Robertson, W W Hurst, W L C Hunnicutt, J D Hays, W E Ballard, R B Downer, F M Williams, J A Ellis, W E M Linfield, A B Stewart F M Featherston, P Howard, J M Weems, J T Heard, W Spillman, J C Brogan, T Y Armstrong, W H Leith, J M Gann, C B Galloway, R D Norsworthy, J W Sandell, D P Bradford, H R Singleton, D G W Ellis, J T Parker, C F Gillespie, J H. Evans, C McDonald, J N Williams, P A Johnson, J J Smylie, W C Black, J W Ellison, J W McLaurin, T S West, R J Jones, R Bradley, J W Adkisson, B T Pearson, D C Langford, T B Holloman, D A Little, B Carrodine, C D Cecil, R T Davis, A M Barrington, R S Woodward, Chas W Calhoun, W D Dominick, C S Powell, B T Jones, T C Bradford, B T Raynor, W W Simmons, J P Drake, I W Cooper, W P Andrews, H R Caldwell, Geo M Gilmore, W W Hopper, D M Rush, H M DuBose, J S Calhoun, T W Brown, G Bancroft, L Carley, D Merchant and J T Graham.

Lay members from the several Districts were present, and participated in the proceedings as follows, viz: W L Nugent, D F Ashford, W L Sibley, H C Newson, W A Powell, J H Thompson, R C Bethea, W M Thornton, I Miller, A G. Mayers, C R. Rencher, B F Orman, T P Bell, L P Brown, R Babington, G Wood, W D Smith, I Roberts and R. A. Tibbs.

C. G. Andrews was elected Secretary, J. A. B. Jones, Assistant; H. M. DuBose, Recording Secretary, and W. C. Black, Statistical Secretary.

The hours of 9 a. m. and 1 p. m., were fixed upon as the time of meeting and adjournment.

Committees on the various interests of the Church, were appointed as follows, viz:

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—R J Jones. E H Mounger and J W Adkisson.

On the State of the Church—J L Forsythe, F M Williams, D L Rush. P A Johnson, J H Thompson, E C Postell, J M Weems.

On Publishing Interests—W H Watkins, R S Woodward, T B Holloman, H F Johnson, B Carradine, J M Gann, B S Raynor, D F Ashford, H C Newsom, W M Thornton, C R Rencher, G Wood, A M Hicks.

On Bible Cause—J T Heard, D P Bradford, C D Cecil, J H Shelton, C McDonald, C F Gillespie, W E Ballard.

On Sunday Schools—C B Galloway, J P Drake, H R Caldwell, L P Brown, J W Ellison, R Bradley.

On Education—W L Nugent, T C Bradford, J J Smylie, J S Parker, T S West, W B Hines, R Babington.

On Memoirs—W L C Hunnicutt, C G Andrews, T W Brown, J P Drake, C McDonald, T S West, J G Jones, I R Robertson, R Abbey, N B Young.

Rev R A Young D D, Secretary of Vanderbuilt University, and Representative of the Publishing House at Nashville; Rev J A Ivy, Agent of the South Western Bible Society; and G T Lathrop, Publisher of the New Orleans Christian Advocate, were present during the session.

Rev Dr Boseman, pastor of the Baptist Church, Rev Dr Bardwell, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, and Rev J L Cooper of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, were introduced to the Conference.

Question First—Who are admitted on trial?

Answer—W. Warren Cammack, from Beauregard Circuit; Martin Auding Bell, from Mt. Olivet Circuit; Joseph T. Nicholson, from DeKalb Circuit; Mager C. Calloway, from Westville Circuit; Edward F. Edgar, from Tranquil Circuit: and Joseph W. Lovett, from Shubuta Circuit.

Question second—Who remain on trial?

Answer—R. French Flowers, in Deacon's orders, Isaac D. Wall, Isaac L. Peebles.

Question third—Who are discontinued?

Answer—None.

Question fourth—Who are admitted into full connection?

Answer—David M. Rush, in Elders orders, Jno. S Calhoun, H. Mellard DuBose.

Question fifth—Who are re-admitted?

Answer—H. J. Harris, L. P. Meador.

Question sixth—Who are received by transfer from other Conferences?

Answer—Jno. W. Chambers, in first year, Jno. T. Graham, in third year, each from Louisiana Conference; Thos. Price, from Texas Conference.

Question seventh—Who are Deacons of one year?

Answer—Benton S. Raynor, S. Perry Drake, Inman W. Cooper, Green W Brown, Clarence A. Powell and Wm. W. Simmons, to be examined in Logic next year; B. Franklin Jones, Thos. C Bradford, Ruffing T. Davis; the three last are continued in class of the third year.

Question eighth—What traveling preachers are elected Deacons?

Answer—John Stewart Calhoun, H. Mellard DuBose.

Question ninth—What traveling preachers are ordained Deacons?

Answer—John Stewart Calhoun, H. Mellard DuBose.

Question tenth—What local preachers are elected Deacons?

Answer—James S. Weems, John A. Gilbert, Thomas H. Rivers, Irvine Roberts, John A. Thomas.

Question eleventh—What local preachers are ordained Deacons?

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Answer—Thos. H. Rivers, Irvine Roberts, John A. Gilbert, Wm. A. Powell, J T. Robinson.

Question twelfth—What traveling preachers are elected Elders?

Answer—Wm. P. Andrews, W. W. Hopper, Geo. M. Gilmore, W. D. Dominick.

Question thirteenth—What traveling preachers are ordained Elders?

Answer—Wm. P. Andrews, W. W. Hopper, Geo. M. Gilmore, W. D. Dominick.

Question fourteenth—What local preachers are elected Elders?

Answer—None.

Question fifteenth—What local preachers are ordained Elders?

Answer—None.

Question sixteenth—Who are located this year?

Answer—None.

Question seventeenth—Who are supernumerary?

Answer—E. A. Flowers, G. T. Vickers.

Question eighteenth—Who are superannuated?

Answer—J G. Jones, W. Spillman, L. Pearce, E. R. Strickland, D. W. Dillehay, J. N. Williams. J. A. Vance, T. Price, A. Day.

Question nineteenth—What preachers have died during the year?

Answer—H. H. Montgomery, H. Copeland, W. Finn. J. B. Higginbotham. P. H. Napier.

Question twentieth—Are all the preachers blameless in their life and official administration?

Answer—Their names were all called over, one by one, and their characters examined and passed; except Louis Kendall, against whom charges and specifications were preferred. He being not ready for trial, his case was continued until the next session of Conference.

Question twenty first—What is the number of local preachers and membere in the several circuits, stations, and missions of Conference?

Answer—Local preachers, 170; members, 22,457. (See statistical report.)

Question twenty-second—How many infants have been baptised during the year?

Answer—1,141. (See statistical report.)

Question twenty-third—How many adults have been baptised during the year?

Answer—1,053. (See statistical report.)

Question twenty-fourth—What is the number of Sunday Schools?

Answer—269. (See Statistical Report.)

Question twenty-fifth—What is the number of Sunday-School Teachers?

Answer—1372. (See statistical report.)

Question twenty-sixth—What is the number of Sunday-School Schollars?

Answer—9,677. (See statistical report.)

Question twenty-seventh—What amount is necessary for the superannuated preachers, and widows and orphans of preachers?

Answer—See Report of the Joint Board of Finance.

Question twenty-eighth—What has been collected on the foregoing accounts and how has it been applied?

Answer—See report of the Joint Board of Finance.

Question twenty-ninth—What has been contributed for Missions?

Answer—For Foreign Missions	$2,161 15
" Domestic "	1,528 50
Total	$3,689 65

Question thirtieth—Where shall the next session of Conference be held?

Answer—At Vicksburg.

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Question thirty-first—Where are the Preachers Stationed this year?

Answer—See last page of this pamphlet.

MINUTES OF CONFERENCE.

J. W. ADKISSON was elected Editor of the Minutes of this session of Conference. Members are requested to send to him their address and the number of copies for which they have subscribed.

Rev. C. B. GALLOWAY was elected Secretary of the Sunday School interests of the Conference.

REQUEST OF ALUMNÆ OF WHITWORTH FEMALE COLLEGE.

A well written appeal from the Alumnæ of Whitworth Female College was read to the Conference, by Miss Julia Raiford, of Liberty, Mississippi, petitioning Conference to transfer said College to the State of Mississippi. Conference refused to grant the request.

VAN HORTON BEQUEST FUND.

Rev. W. P. Barton, of the North Mississippi Conference, reported one hundred dollars collected of the above fund. The money was received and paid over to the Joint Board of Finance.

GAVEL FROM A CHINA TREE AT GOSHEN STATION.

Rev. DR. BARDWELL presented to the Bishop, for use during the session, a gavel made from the wood of a China tree planted at Goshen Station by the Missionaries to the Choctaw Indians, sent out by the authority of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, more than half a century ago.

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE NEW ORLEANS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

J. G. JONES, at his own request, was relieved from serving on the Publishing Committee of New Orleans Christian Advocate, and W. L. C. HUNNICUTT was appointed in his stead.

HENNINGTON CAMP-MEETING ASSOCIATION.

W. H. WATKINS was appointed a Committee of one to memorialize the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, to repeal the present Act of Incorporation of the Hennington Camp-Meeting Association.

COMMITTEES OF EXAMINATION,

For Admission on Trial:—B. Jones, W. B. Lewis and J. W. McLaurin.

First Year:—J. W. Adkisson, J. M. Weems and R. S. Woodward.

Second Year:—C. G. Andrews, C. B. Galloway and R. J. Jones.

Third Year:—T. W. Brown, W. H. Leith and T. S. West.

Fourth Year:—W. L. C. Hunnicutt, R. D. Norsworthy and W. E. Ballard.

JOINT BOARD FINANCE FOR 1880.

Ministers—R. D. Norsworthy, H. R. Singleton, W. B. Lewis, Thomas W. Brown, C. W. Calhoun, D. A. Little and B. Caradine.

Laymen—W. L. Nugent, T. L. Mellen, I. V. Enochs, T. D. Brame, Robert Babington, S. B. Watts and W. M. Thornton.

VISITING COMMITTEES.

To Centenary College of La.—W. H. Leith, H. R. Singleton and T. W. Brown.

To Port Gibson Collegiate Academy—R. S. Woodward, J. L. Forsyth and T. B. Holloman.

To Whitworth Female College—W. H. Watkins, C. B. Galloway and W. B. Lewis.

To East Mississtppi Female College—E. H. Mounger, J. J. Smylie and G. F Thompson.

To Woodville Female Seminary—C. G. Andrews, J. P. Drake and B. F. Jones.

MEMOIRS.

REV. HENDERSON H. MONTGOMERY,

was born in Williamson county, Tennessee, August 12th, 1819, and died June 15th, 1879. His father was Andrew Hamilton Montgomery, born in Lancaster District, S. C. His mother was Elizabeth Jane Morris, born in Davidson county, Tenn. When he was about two years of age his parents became concerned about religion, and joined the Methodist Church. He said of himself he did not know precisely when he felt the first impressions about religion. He was converted at the age of sixteen, at Sardis camp meeting, Henderson county, Tenn., on the 10th of August, 1835. He was licensed to exhort by Rev. J. W. Ellis, September 1st, 1839, and on the 15th of August, 1840, was licensed to preach, and on the 4th day of November, of the same year, he was admitted on trial in the Memphis Conference, Bishop Andrew presiding. He remained in the Memphis Conference six years, being three years on circuits and three on stations. He transferred to the Mississippi Conference in 1846, where he has served three districts as presiding elder, four stations, and many circuits. For three years he was agent of the Book and Tract Society. He was never local, was never on the supernumerary or superannuated list. To preach was his loved employ. His very last published article showed that he wanted to live, only that he might continue to work for the Master.

If the question was raised: "Who of all the members of the Mississippi Conference during the last thirty years had come nearer realizing the much quoted sentiment, 'He did the whole duty of a Methodist preacher?'" doubtless the answer from many lips would be: H. H. Montgomery. He recognized with unquestionable obedience the authority of the church, loved its usages, and always endeavored, as best he could, to fill the appointment assigned him. Whether as station or circuit preacher, or presiding elder or agent, he strove to do heartily whatever his hand found to do. Voluntarily, unreservedly, conscientiously, he had given himself to the church, and whatever its authorities bade him do that was his duty and his delight.

He was methodical, and always ready. He would have everything prepared before hand for a Quarterly, an Annual, or even a General Conference, as far as he was able. He anticipated what committees would be needed, and had the list made out; what resolutions, and had them written; what *data*, and had it always at hand. So thoroughly did he canvass all these matters, and so minutely did he provide for them, that his fellow committee-men found little else to do than to adopt his own judicious suggestions.

He was a most instructive preacher, not showy, but scriptural and edifying. He had a most remarkable tact for putting to immediate and effective use in his preaching, whatever he had seen or heard; and, after having been received and restamped in his own mind, it shone with a greater brilliancy, and possessed greater intrinsic value than before. While his sermons enchained the attention during their delivery, they also remained fixed in the memory. So clear and distinct were his enunciations of doctrine, so authoritative his enforcement of duty, so apposite and striking his illustrations, that his sermons were often indelible in their impression. He labored for immediate results, and if one method of presenting truth did not succeed in arousing sinners, he would resort to others. His great purpose was to induce men to fall out with their sins and forsake them. If this could not be done by the ordinary presentation of the glories of the saved, and the terrors of the lost, he would try the unsparing and withering denunciation of special sins. Under them the timid Christian would shrink and wince, the lukewarm be loud in their condemnation, and the unscrupulously wicked would even threaten personal violence. Many times has even his life been menaced; but on these occasions, when his friends would be concerned for his safety, he was calm and unconcerned. Indeed, this was the very state of things that he wished to bring about; and the fact that many of those who were most excitedly wrought up became afterward, because of that very experience, devoted Christians, and some of them even ministers of the gospel, showed the wisdom of the policy. It is doubtful if any other man ever wielded so great an influence through central Mississippi, or was the means of the conversion of more sinners, or lead more young men into the ministry.

Bro. Montgomery was a very popular writer. The files of the NEW ORLEANS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE from its beginning, and those of the Jackson Methodist, show many pieces which are peculiarly interesting and entertaining, and also highly instructive in the doctrine and polity of the church he loved so well.

He was five successive times elected to the General Conference, beginning with the Nashville Conference of 1858, and ending with the Louisville in 1874. He made a most useful member, and his conservative influence was felt and prized. This continued preferment at the hands of his brethren was to him a source of the purest and most heartfelt gratification. From no men in the world could indications of trust and affection have been so highly prized by him as from traveling Methodist preachers.

Bro. Montgomery was as far removed as possible from being a time-server. He had little or no policy in his nature or conduct. His convictions were strong and sincere, and he acted upon them, no matter what persons or measures they arrayed against him. If there was bluntness, or even inconsiderateness of the feelings or rights of others in his method of securing desired results, it arose not from a want of courtesy or kindness, but rather from a heartfelt assurance that what he advocated was right, and that the right must prevail. If circumstances demanded only courtesy and kindness, his ardent feelings were at once enlisted, but if the exhibition of courtesy and kindness for a moment jeopardized the prevalence of truth, then the former seemed insignificant, even puerile in his estimation.

As a personal friend, and especially to his brethren in the ministry, no truer heart ever beat than in his own bosom. He loved God and the church, and all who were of kindred sentiments found ready access to his heart, and remained fixed there as with hooks of steel

One trait of his character deserves honorable mention, viz: He was faithful in the unrighteous mammon. He was scrupulously exact in money matters. Though his whole life was a struggle with poverty, on account of his insufficient pay as a preacher, yet he never left a circuit in debt. Though he frequently urged the stewards and members to pay him his dues as pastor, none could say of him that he did not do his duty likewise to those whom he owed. "He that is faithful in that which is least, is faithful also in much."

Bro. Montgomery was subjected to most sorrowful experiences in the death of his children. Out of a large family of most promising sons and daughters, only two survive. Most of them died as they approached maturity. A noble son was called upon to give up his life just as he was prepared to enter upon the honorable career for which his natural endowments, and intellectual and moral attainments, so eminently qualified him. Two accomplished daughters were taken while engaged in their successful life work. But these deep trials never provoked a murmuring word from him; nay, very probably, never produced a murmuring thought. He had learned to say: "It is the Lord, let Him do what seemeth Him good."

His devoted wife, who has proved as true a yoke-fellow as ever brightened an itinerant's life, says that in the closing hours "he was calm and serene and patient." His last words were a message to his two daughters "to love and serve the Lord."

Thus one of our bravest spirits, our most successful workers, our truest friends, has fallen. Brethren of the Mississippi Conference, let us emulate his shining example.

C. G. ANDREWS.

REV. HERVEY COPELAND.

We have no account of the birth, early life and education of the Rev. HERVEY COPELAND. In November 1846, he was admitted on trial into the Memphis Conference, where he labored until 1850, when he located, and soon after removed to Vicksburg, Mississippi, and in 1856 he entered the Mississippi Conference, in Elder's Orders, where he labored until 1868, when, his health failing, he was superannuated. Not long after this, he removed with his family to British Honduras. From that time until his death, which occurred the 24th July, 1879, he labored constantly and successfully as a Missionary in that country, though not regularly in missionary employ. The committee is well informed that the ministerial labors of brother Copeland in that far off Southern country where Christ and His salvation were but little known, were largely owned and blessed of God.

Brother Copeland was probably a man sixty years of age at his death, and was a minister thirty-three years. He was a substantial Christian, a faithful minister, a reliable friend, and a very devoted husband and father. He died in the highest triumphs of the Christian faith and in full view of a glorious immortality.

R. ABBEY, Chairman.

REV. WILLIAM FINN.

Roverend WILLIAM FINN, for many years identified with our Conference, has laid down the weapons of his warfare to take the crown of life eternal. He was born in Simpson county, Kentucky, December 13th, 1806, and "fell asleep" in Wilkinson county, Mississippi, February 10th, 1879, after a ministry of 36 years. His was a chequered and useful life. The pious mother's early teaching weighed more

with him than the example of an irreligious father. At the age of twenty-six years he joined the noble army of local preachers, providing for himself and family in things temporal, while he sowed the seed of the Spiritual Kingdom in the hearts of others. In 1842 he was admitted on trial in the Illinois Conference, M. E. Church, and graduated as an Elder in four years. During the first year of his itinerant labor, 1000 souls were converted on his circuit. What burning zeal and faithful work must underlie such results! Soon after the organization of our Southern Methodism, he cast in his lot among us, and took part in the ministry in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, till his death. In 1859 he came to our Conference and continued of the same to his dying day. His last charge was Forest, far away from the only place on earth he could call home. In 1871 he took a superannuted relation being very feeble with age and paralysis. He so continued till the Master said "it is enough, come up higher." His response to the summons, "all is well," "bids *us* undismayed go on." Brother Finn was a man of full habit of body and energetic mind. The pedo-baptist doctrines had an able and warm friend in him. Uncle Finn, as he was latterly known through all the Buffalo country, was a tower of strength to Methodists waverng before the too persistent assaults of those who would forbid the bringing of little children into covenant relations to the Church by baptism. Many of their angels have doubtless welcomed him at the "Beautiful Gate" of the Eternal City. May God comfort his widow and bring us all safely there to join with him in the glad new song. J. P. DRAKE, For the Com.

REV. JOHN B. HIGGINBOTHAM,

late of the Mississippi Conference, was born in Elbert county, Ga., August 27th, 1802, and came with his parents to Louisiana in 1810. Being brought up from infancy to believe in and feel the importance of a change of heart, he was lead, in early boyhood, to seek the forgiveness of his sins, and was hopefully born of the Spirit. For awhile he walked in the light of God's countenance, and rejoiced in a present salvation from sin. But, under the persistent derision, and even persecution of some of his boyish associates, he yielded to discouragement, and gave up the service of God At the age of eighteen he was reawakened, and, after a season of deep penitence, was fully restored to the favor of God, and soon began to manifest that activity in the social meetings of the church, which was his most striking characteristic in all after life. He was married in 1826, and became the father of thirteen children, eight of whom are yet living, and all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Of the five dead, four died in adult age, leaving the assurance that they were at peace with God. Those who were acquainted brother Higginbotham's family government were not surprised at the early piety of his numerous family of children. He literally "brought them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," and he kept the holy fire so constantly glowing on the home altar that it was to be expected they would catch the holy flame. He had a severe trial when he felt inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to preach the gospel. He was brought up at a time and in a country where educational facilities were very scarce, and the great trouble with him was his want of literary qualifications for the ministry. But, feeling the duty of preaching imperious, he dared not disobey the voice of the Spirit, and offered himself for such service as God would enable him to perform. At a Conference held at Tuscaloosa, Ala., late in November, 1830, he was admitted on trial in the travelling connection, and of the forty-eight years of his ministry he was on circuits seven years, colored missions, twelve; local, eleven, and superannuated, eighteen. Brother Higginbotham was one of the most diligent laborers in the ministry, both in public and private, I ever knew. He was a thorough Wesleyan in doctrine, experience and practice. He read little outside of his Bible, the leather bound standards of Methodism, and the church periodicals, in all the earlier years of his ministry. He excelled in pastoral visiting, always concluding his visit with "a word of prayer." It seemed easy for him to talk to everybody that had intercourse with him on the subject of religion. It was of him that Thomas Griffin said in a Conference held in Vicksburg, in December, 1832, that "he almost literally swept the earth in search of souls," referring to his pastoral visiting. What he seemed to lack in the quality of his labors was more than compensated by the quantity. For several years he has been patiently waiting for his change to come. His life had been a scene of trials as well as triumphs, and he was willing to have it closed on earth that he might enjoy the better life above. On the eleventh of January, 1879, in the seventy seventh year of his age, his release came. His mind was calm and his faith strong and triumphant. He said several times that day, "I am almost home," and adopted as his last utterance the language of the dying Wesley: "The best of all is God is with us." J. G. JONES.

PHILIP HAWKINS NAPIER,

eldest son of John S. and Frances B. Napier, was born in Smith county, Tenn., November 4th, 1821. In 1831, the family moved to Mississippi. At Santee Camp ground, in Covington county, in 1836, he embraced religion, and afterwards joined the Methodist Protestant Church, of which his mother was a member. In 1838 he married Miss Sarah Dooly, in Wayne county, and in 1839, entered the ministry in the Methodist Protestant Church. He labored faithfully in this church for over thirty years, filling many important appointments, and, part of the time, President of his annual conference. He was one of the leaders in the union of the Mississippi Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church with this Conference, which was consummated in 1871. Since the union he filled three appointments: Canton Station, Shubuta Circuit and East Pascagoula. On account of failing health, he located in 1873, was readmitted in 1877, and appointed to Lake circuit. A few days after Conference, he was stricken down with apoplexy, or something like it, from which he never fully recovered. He died March 3d, 1879, at his home, in the triumphs of the faith he so earnestly proclaimed. Brother Napier's early education was limited, but his after attainments were considerable. Considering his obstacles and disadvantages, he probably accomplished as much as any other man ever did. Both in the pulpit and on the rostrum, he was one of the finest orators in our State. As a polemic in debate, or with his pen, he displayed great talent. He leaves a widow, they having had no heir. We close by copying part of a sketch of him by Bishop McTyeire, published in the N. O. Christian Advocate: "Our Bro. Napier came to us (or we to him) from the Methodist Protestant Church. He was a leader by right of nature and grace, among his former brethren, and would have been so with us, in his prime. I met him first in their convention at Montgomery, Ala., in 1867. A convention called to see if a union could not be effected between the two churches, since we had adopted lay delegation. The convention failed of the object, though I was, and still am, of the opinion that it would have favored union if a square vote had been taken. Napier and others made the point, that since the original and material ground for which they stood, and on which they stood had been conceded, and was locked up in the Constitution of the mother church, they had nothing to stand for or on as a separate Ecclesiastical organization. What failed as a movement, *en masse*, has since largely taken place in the Southern States, by individual and congregational election. These brethren with hundreds of their people, are with us, and Methodism has been the happier and stronger for it. Some of our best Editors and Presiding Elders have been furnished from their ranks. Never was union more complete and harmonious. The success of it is largely due to the influence and example of Brother Napier and such men.

Meridian, Miss., Dec. 20th, 1879. C. McDONALD.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH.

The Committee on the State of the Church have had this subject under consideration, and beg leave to make the following report:

The Spiritual condition of the Church, as determined from data drawn from the usual different sources, may be announced quite encouraging. Information derived from various parts of the Conference, leads us to conclude unhesitatingly, that there has been, during the past Conference year, a general advance of the spiritual interests of our Church. Revivals of religion have occurred in almost every part of the Conference, and have been attended with glorious results. Many souls have passed from death unto life. Many persons have attached themselves to the church. It would seem that the Spirit of God has been present and accompanied the preached word in a degree somewhat remarkable in many parts of the connection. It has been a common observation on the part of many of God's people, that sinners and backsliders have been readily impressed for good. We have cause as a Conference to magnify the name of the Lord, who hath done so great and marvelous things for us.

Our Spiritual improvement is furthermore evinced in the fact, that the Sunday School work is extending itself. The number of schools has been augmented with a relative increase of teachers and pupils. Our church is constantly gaining strength from this department of her work, not merely strength of numbers, but

what is infinitely superior to simply numerical forces, she is steadily developing in knowledge of the Bible, in the truth as it is in Christ Jesus, and particularly in that presentation of doctrine peculiar to our church. We have reason to believe that there has been perceptible advancement of the great and noble work of the Sunday School.

As another indication of our Spiritual progress, we may call attention to the fact that there has been, during the past year, improvement in the great moral duty of family worship. From what we can ascertain there has been more than the ordinary establishment and re-establishment of the family altar. Prayer meetings held both at church and in the family, have been multiplied and are, doubtless doing a great work.

The most forcible argument in demonstration of Spiritual improvement, is drawn from the improved state of finance, as brought out by the several pastoral reports. The liberality of our people as shown by their contributions in meeting the several Conference claims, in the more liberal support of the ministry, and in responding with their means to the appeals of exigencies of various kinds, reflects most favorably on the piety and spiritual condition of our church.

The attitude which she maintains to the education of her sons and daughters, and, also, of her ministry, is not to be passed over unnoticed. This Conference has, perhaps, never been, at any previous time, so fully awake to denominational education. The several schools under the auspices of our Conference are in a better condition, than they have been for years before.

While we are happy to congratulate the Conference on the preceding part of this report, it is matter of deep regret, that there are some things connected with the church to be deprecated:—1st, Though there has been a gratifying improvement in finance, yet the salaries of many of our preachers are too small, and what is still more unfavorable, the already too meager salaries are in many instances, not fully met; and thus the necessity is laid on some of our preachers, to give part of their time and attention to secular pursuits. This ought not be!

2d, Our missionary efforts are, as yet, too feeble. Our church is delinquent in this respect. Both our missionary zeal and missionary contributions are inadequate, not worthy of us. Nor has our Conference, as a general thing, done all that it should have done, in behalf of the "Woman's Foreign Missionary Society." Some of our people have countenanced this movement and given their assistance in the organization of subordinate societies, in many places however nothing has been done.

3d. We are pained to be under the necessity of calling the attention of the Conference to some laxity, and even breach, of Christian morality. There are many members of our church, and these are not all confined to the ranks of the younger classes, who will frequent places of worldly amusements, which are condemned by our church as of pernicious tendency, such as the circus, theatre, et cetera. But what is more painful, still, some of our preachers do not condemn these mischievous practices, as promptly as they should, and it is to be feared, that a few do not rebuke them either by precept or example.

On the whole we are constrained to say, that during our conference year now closing, "the Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

J. L. FORSYTH, Chairman.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Never, perhaps, since the Apostolic days, was universal Christendom so thoroughly imbued with the spirit of Missions as at the present hour. The hosts of God's Israel in every land seem moved by a profound conviction that it is the highest function of the Church to send the gospel to All the world. The triumphs of the cross in heathen lands, have been greater during the last fifty years than during the five hundred which preceeded them. A once numerous branch of the church refused to engage in missionary work, and that church has for fifty years been dying the death which Providence appoints for all anti-missionary churches: while a sister church, (nearly related to the last mentioned), which is emphatically missionary, in name and spirit, has grown to be one of the most numerous and powerful churches in the world. All growing churches are missionary churches, and the life and power of each particular christian organization is, doubtless, in exact proportion to its missionary zeal. The humiliating fact that the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, though by no means the smallest of the churches, is among the smallest in her achievements in missionary fields, ought not to be overlooked or forgotten.—Some of our members are opposed, and others quite indifferent, to foreign missions, chiefly, we think, because of ignorance on the subject. No doubt they skip the missionary columns when they read their Advocates. Even in the midst of Christen-

dom. "darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people," in many places; yet God, the missionary God, who sent His Son into the world, proclaims to the universal church, "Arise, shine, for thy Light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." We rejoice that our reproach in this respect, is fast being taken away. Our work in foreign fields is rapidly increasing. In South America and in Mexico, and among the Indians of the United States, our work is advancing. After laboring in China for more than thirty years, with apparently very meager results, we are now gladdened by the happy promise of a large reward. Truth permits and justice requires us to say, that a large part of the credit of the achievements of our church in China, is due, under God, to our own James W. Lambuth, who, for a quarter of a century, has devoted himself and his earthly all to the missionary cause in that far off land. Under his faithful and laborious administration we are at last gladdened to behold a regularly organized Conference of itinerant Methodist preachers in the "Celestial Empire," Celestial, alas! only in the name. That Conference embraces six regular Presiding Elders' Districts and has four foreign and ten native preachers. May that conference be the mother of a hundred that shall embrace all China.

The Secretary has received from the various charges in the Mississippi Conference this year for Foreign Missions, $2,161 15, being an increase over last years receipts of nearly six hundred dollars, and paid the same to the Treasurer. Eight missions within the Mississippi Conference, to which appropriations were made, and several to which no appropriations were made, have been faithfully serverd by the missionaries appointed to them severally. The Secretary has collected and paid to the Treasurer for Domestic missions this year, $1,528 50, being an increase over last year's collections of four hundred dollars. The Board were enabled this year to pay in full all claims against the Board, a thing which they had not been able to do for many years previously.

No money is paid out except upon the closest inquiry into the amount and faithfulness of the work done. For particular statistics of the several missions the Secretary would refer to our printed minutes of Conference.

ASSESSMENTS FOR MISSIONS.

Districts.	Foreign.	Domestic.
Vicksburg	$780 00	$400 00,
Jackson	780 00	400 00,
Brandon	540 00	240 00,
Meridian	540 00	240 00,
Brookhaven	600 00	240 00,
Woodville	600 00	240 00,
Sea shore	420 00	200 00.

W. L. C. HUNNICUTT, Sec't'y B'r'd Mis., Miss. Con.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

The Committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to offer the following report:

The modern Sunday-School has had a history of well nigh an hundred years. Its influence has widened and strengthened until to-day it ranks among the most powerful evangelical agencies of the world. The denomination that gives greatest and most intelligent consideration to its promotion and efficiency will have the largest measure of success. As a church and Conference we have not been behind the foremost, yet we cannot claim to have even approximated our responsibility and duty. From our Sunday Schools have been reported a gratifying number of conversions and valuable accessions to the church.

We mention with pleasure the organization of a State Sunday-School Convention, in Mississippi, over which, during the present year, a member of this Conference has been called to preside, which, we believe, has greatly quickened the zeal and enlarged the intelligent conceptions and labors of Sunday-School workers. In view of the existence of this Convention and the number of county conventions and institutes, auxiliary thereto, established, we deem it unadvisable at present to organize a Sunday-School Conference, as suggested by our distinguished Editor, the Rev. Dr. Cunningham.

The Reports of the past year compel us to emphasize the importance of introducing missionary societies into the machinery of every Sunday School. We suggest that the contributions of these societies be *specially appropriated* as most helpful in developing missionary sentiment and faith among children. One of these schools in our Conference, has undertaken the support of a Bible-woman in China, another the maintainance of a native preacher.

For efficiency of instruction and the achievement of largest spiritual results—the divine mission of the Sunday School—we would urge upon pastors and superintendents great care in the selection of teachers. Earnest piety and aptness to teach, are chief qualifications. As far as practicable, the regular visitation of their pupils, at least quarterly, should be required. An incompetent and indolent teacher destroyeth much good.

We would also re-affirm the recommendatien of former reports, that regular, weekly teachers' meetings be held in every school, for lesson-study. They afford opportunity for frequent consultation, secure greater unity of effort and a more thorough preparation for the Sabbath class-exercise. At the meetings the pastor should be present as often as possible.

Our Libraries, in many places, are very inadequate to the demand. Good books, attractive, instructive and readable to the children, are a necessity. They should be selected with intelligent carefulness. An unwholesome book or periodical, may neutralize the labor of years. A committee on library, of which the pastor should be a member, might profitably be appointed in every school. In this connection, we express regret that our Publishing House has not been able to make larger additions to our Sunday-School catalogue.

We would, also, re-emphasize our appreciation of the Sunday School as an institution of the church which should be under its prayerful, constant, fostering care. The pastor should be its chief promoter and ever-present counselor. We would suggest the wisdom of his preaching, at intervals, special sermons to the children, and lecturing on the Sunday-School lesson text. In addition to the foregoing we offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st That this Conference at its present session, elect a Corresponding Secretary to represent the Sunday-School interests of the Conference to the Sunday-School Editor at Nashville, according to the provisons of the Discipline, Chap. 5, Sec. 5, page 134.

Resolved, 2d. That in addition to the Inter-national Lesson text, pastors and superintendents, be recommended to introduce McTyeire's "Catechism on Church Government" in their senior classes.

Resolved, 3d. That greater prominence be given to the subject of Sunday-Schools in our District Conferences, and when practicable, in connection therewith, that District Sunday-School Institutes be organized.

CHARLES B. GALLOWAY, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE.

To the Bishop and Members of the Mississippi Conference:

The Joint Board of Finance have instructed me to make the following Report:

The amount assessed against the Conference at the last session thereof for the Bishop's fund was $900, and for the Conference fund, $2,100. These amounts were apportioned as follows:

District.	Bishop's fund.	Conference fund.
Vicksburg	$170 00	$390 00
Jackson	200 00	410 00
Brandon	100 00	175 00
Brookhaven	145 00	350 00
Woodville	100 00	260 00
Seashore	70 00	165 00
Meridian	115 00	350 00
Total	$900 00	$2100 00

The following amounts have been reported to us from the several Districts, on account of the said funds:

Districts.	Bishop's fund.	Conference fund.
Yicksburg	$170 00	$390 80
Jackson	200 00	304 90
Brandon	100 50	123 50
Brookhaven	134 55	322 10
Woodville	101 45	264 65
Seashore	95 90	170 40
Meridian	115 00	237 45
Total	$917 30	$1,813 80

We have receved from the Van Horton Trust fund $100, and the whole amount of the Conference fund for distribution is, therefore, $1,913 80, of which $1 80 has been disbursed for stationery and a tin box in which the funds could be deposited and safely kept. This tin box is to be retained for the use of the Joint Board of Finance hereafter. We have, therefore, for distribution among the claimants up on the Conference fund, $1,912.

The Bishop's fund has been paid out by us as follows: To Bishop Payne, three receipts, $145; to L. D. Palmer, $50 25; to Bishop Keener, two receipts, $70, and to Bishop Kavanaugh, $652 05. We have made no special appropriation for the Bishop's travelling expenses, as we think the amount allowed by the General Conference to our Bishops, includes salary and travelling expenses.

The aggregate amount received for the benefit of the claimants upon the Conference fund has been distributed by us as follows:

Claimants.	To whom paid.	Amount paid.
W Spillman	Self	$ 47 80
Mrs V H Johnston	P A Johnson	47 80
Mrs D Dawson	W A Watkins	47 80
Mrs W C Hauey	G F Thompson	95 60
Mrs Thompson and 3 children	J C Brogan	95 60
Mrs David Wiggins	R D Norsworthy	47 80
Mrs W W Drake and 3 children	J P Drake	143 40
Mrs Berry and 2 children	J H Shelton	47 80
Mrs R J Jones and 3 children	R J Jones	95 60
Mrs McKay	Irvine Miller	47 80
Mrs Wm McCormick		None asked or needed
Mrs L Campbell	C G Andrews	95 60
Mrs P Cooper	I W Cooper	71 70
Mrs John C Johnson	D P Bradford	95 60
Mrs B M Drake	J P Drake	71 70
Mrs Herbert	T C Bradford	47 80
Rev J G Jones	Self	95 60
Mrs Wm Finn	J S Parker	95 60
Rev E R Strickland	Self	95 60
Mrs James Long	C F Gillispie	47 80
Mrs C C Watkins	D F Jones	23 90
Mrs Wm Wardsworth & 3 chilcren	N B Young	143 40
Rev D W Dillihay	Self	95 60
Mrs H H Montgomery	R D Norsworthy	23 90
Rev I N Williams	Self	64 30
Mrs P H Napier		None asked or needed
Mrs H P Bowen and 3 children	B T Pearson	95 60
Rev L R Redding's 3 children	T S West	47 80
Total		$1,928 50

The claimants upon the Conference fund are increasing in number, and the demands of all require the prompt collection of the amount assessed by the Conference. We have reduced the assessment to the minimum, because of the condition of things in our State, and do not think it can now be lessened. In some instances we may have erred in making distribution of the fund, but we have acted with the lights before us so as to deal justly and equitably. We are not furnished with the reports, called for at each session of the Conference, as to the condition of the Conference claimants and their wants. Those who fail to bring this important information to our notice may yet suffer because of similar neglect.

We have concluded upon and report to the Conference the assessment of last year for the support of the Bishops and Conference claimants, and have apportioned the same as follows:

Districts.	Bishop's fund.	Conference fund.
Vicksburg	$170 00	$390 00
Jackson	200 00	410 00
Brandon	100 00	175 00
Brookhaven	145 00	350 00
Woodville	100 00	260 00
Seashore	70 0	165 00
Meridian	115 00	350 00
Total	$900 00	$2,100 00

Respectfully submitted for the Committee,

W. L. NUGENT, Secretary.

REPORT ON BIBLE CAUSE.

The Annual report of the South Western Bible Society exhibits a gratifying improvement in its operations during the year. It has had visited 41,235 families.—Supplied 11,138 families, and 2,953 individuals. It reports having completed a systematic and thorough canvass in Louisiana of twenty-one Parishes which added to six last year make twenty-seven in all completed since we commenced a thorough canvass of our territory two years ago. The work is being prosecuted in ten others leaving twenty-one still, in which no work has been done.

In Mississippi, seven counties have been completed, which added to three last year, make ten completed. In nine others Colporteurs are at work, and some work has been done in eleven others, still leaving only four, Simpson, Leake, Neshoba and Kemper untouched.

The Parent society has generously furnished us for the performance of this work upward of $6,000 worth of books. After paying expenses we have returned a little over $700.

The contributions to the Society, $720, though more than twice as much as was received last year, still indicates little interest in the cause by the churches it represents when compared with its importance.

The Society recognizes its obligations to Revs W. P. Andrews, H. P. Lewis, J N. Williams, W. B. Lewis, B. S. Raynor, H. R. Caldwell, B. Howard, and others, members of the Conference, for their co-operation.

Meridian, Miss., Dec. 18th, 1879. J. T. HEARD, Chairman.

GENERAL REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We have four Institutions of Learning directly under the care of this Conference, and a fifth, which, though not wholly under our control, is conducted under our supervision and subject to our power of visitation. We refer to them in detail.

CENTENARY COLLEGE,

begins the session of 1879-80 with an increase of patronage, and fairer prospects of more enlarged usefulness. Each member of the Faculty is a teacher of age and many years experience; two of the faculty are ministers of the gospel, and the other two are active members of the Methodist church. There are sixty-seven students in daily attendance, thirty of whom are in the regular College classes. Thirty of the sixty-seven are members of the church, and eight are preparing for the ministry.—The deportment of the students has been and is exceptionally good, and for three successive sessions there has been no case of expulsion, suspension or public reproof. The standard of scholarship in this institution will compare favorably with that of any college in the United States. The cost of tuition in the college classes is $65, and in the Preparatory Department, $45. Board, including meals and washing, is furnished at $10 per month, and, in private families, at $12 50 per month. Centenary College is endeared to us by many hallowed associations, and is entitled to the fos'ering care of the church. We recommend the reappointment of Rev. C. G. Andrews as President, and that the Rev. J. W Rush be continued as the Professor of Mathematics and Natural Science in said College.

PORT GIBSON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

has enjoyed a good degree of prosperity during the past year. Its location is pleasant, healthful and quite accessible to many living in the Western portion of this State and to all Eastern Louisiana. The present session has opened with flattering prospects, the number of boarders being more than double the number during the last year. The buildings are in pretty good repair, though not completed so as to accommodate the full number of boarders their capacity would allow. We believe this Institution is destined to a high and important degree of usefulness, and that our people should patronize and sustain it. As the test of merit is success, we recommend the continuance of Rev. J. A. B. Jones in his office of President of the Academy.

EAST MISSISSIPPI FEMALE COLLEGE

is located in one of the most flourishing towns of our State, and enjoys a larger patronage than it can fairly meet. Its building is filled, and applicants have been refused admission. With the plan adopted at the present session of the Conference practically tested, we have strong expectations that the want of room, now painfully felt, will be supplied. The College is needed just where it is; it has an able

President, a good corpse of teachers, and a large body of enthusiastic patrons and friends. Its success is an accomplished fact, and its influence for good can hardly now be fairly estimated. Its facilities for educating the young ladies in this part of our State must be increased. We recommend the continuance of Rev. J. W. Adkisson as President of this College.

WOODVILLE FEMALE SEMINARY,

though not, strictly speaking, one of our schools, is subject to our visitorial power under its charter of incorporation. The regularly appointed pastor of our church at Woodville was one of the original corporators, and his successor is still one of the corporators or trustees. All vacancies in the Board of trustees are filled subject to the approval of this Conference. At our last session the trustees elected to fill vacancies were confirmed. We have not been favored with any report from this Seminary, and can give no information as to its management or present condition. In order that this information may be regularly supplied and the Institution utilized as an agency for good, as well as brought into harmonious relationship to the church, we recommend that a committee be appointed to visit it and take counsel with the Board of trustees.

WHITWORTH FEMALE COLLEGE,

occupies a position second to no female school in the country. Its success has been uninterrupted and distinguished under the management of its able President. Its buildings, valued at $25, 0'. are now the property of the church, but we are asked by the Board of trustees to raise $3,500 to $1000, which, with available subscriptions already secured, is to be used to reimburse the President of said College for outlay in building the Dormitory. We think the church should be called upon to contribute in this behalf, and that Rev. H. F. Johnson should be appointed an agent for this purpose, and for the raising an endowment fund sufficient to place the College upon a more satisfactory basis. To Dr. Johnson this Conference is largely indebted. The history of his connection with "Whitworth Female College," is full of activity, enterprise and benevolence. His talents could be exercised and his labor utilized no where else so well as in the Presidency of this College, and we recommend his reappointment to that position.

We herewith return all papers and reports submitted to us.

W. L. NUGENT, Chairman.

SPECIAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION NO. I.

The Committee on Education have had under consideration the preamble and resolutions of J. T. Heard, which have been submitted or referred to said Committee, and instruct me to report, that, in their opinion, some favorable action be taken by this Conference. Applicahts for matriculation in the East Mississippi Female College have not been received because of a want of room for their accommodation; and if this can be supplied during the coming year, we have no doubt the Institution will largely increase its capacity for good. We think the church should fairly respond to the demands for female education, and never surrender this high trust devolved upon it by the common consent of all intelligent men. In order, therefore, that the estimation in which this Institution seems to be held by its patrons and friends be afforded opportunity for practical illustration, we recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolution:

Resolved, That the President of the Mississippi Annual Conference be, and he is, hereby requested to appoint Rev. John A. Ellis, an agent to solicit contributions for the purpose of building such additions to the East Mississippi Female College as may, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, be necessary to provide accommodation adequate to the demands upon the said Institution; and that all practicable facilities be extended to him by the preachers in charge of circuits and stations within the bounds of this Conference. Respectfully submitted,

W. L. NUGENT, Chairman.

SPECIAL REPORT NO 2.

The Committee on Education have carefully considered the address of the Alumnæ Association of Whitworth Female College, and have instructed me, for them, to report adversely to the proposition presented for our consideration.

The Whitworth Female College property was conveyed, by Milton J. Whitworth, in 1867, to John H. Thompson and others, in trust for the use and benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and upon the conditions that it should be used for the purpose of female education, under the direction and control of the Annual

Conference of said church within whose bounds it may be located, or as the General Conference might direct, and that, if said church "should pervert, or permit the Board of trustees to pervert said property, from the use for which it is hereby donated, then it shall revert to said donor or his heirs." There can be no doubt as to the meaning of these expressive words, and this Conference is powerless to grant the request so eloquently and feelingly presented by the accomplished ladies who have honored us by their presence. The founder of the College, looking through coming years, and fearing that the exigency might arise which would necessitate a sale of the property, has made a fair provision in the deed itself for this purpose. "But if, in coming years, the circumstances shall be such, that, in the judgment of said Annual Conference, the cause of female education will be promoted by a sale of said property, and that such sale is necessary to accomplish the object herein contemplated, namely female education, then said property may be sold and the proceeds thereof shall be faithfully applied to said object. But said property shall never be so disposed of so long as said College can be successfully maintained, and this the said Annual Conference shall determine." That the college can be successfully maintained is demonstrated. No one doubts for a moment that, under the management of its present efficient President, supplemented by the sympathy and encouragement of this Conference and the co-operation of its patrons, Whitworth Female College will continue to improve, extending, deepening and widening its influence for good.

The Alumnæ of the College are in earnest, and their co-operation in anything this conference may determine can be confidently expected; we are so informed by the President of the Association. Every principle of honor requires us to consummate the purpose of the generous founder. The Board of trustees ask us to raise a small amount; we should attempt more. The territory immediately tributary to Whitworth College, can maintain, by its patronage, a first class female school.—I think the world acts wisely when it confides to the church the education of our females. We believe the church can command the means by honest, persistent effort. We are persuaded that our duty to the mothers and daughters of our State calls for an earnest response to the petition of the ladies in the effort to enlarge and endow, if possible, Whitworth Female College.

The accompanying resolutions will briefly express the views of the Committee, and constitute an answer to the petition we have considered as well as the prayer of the Board of trustees.

W. L. NUGENT, Chairman.

Resolved, That, while denying the request of the Alumnæ Association of Whitworth Female College to turn the College property over to the State, we respect the motives which prompted their address; appreciate the devotion of the ladies to the cause of female education, and with their cordial sympathy and active co-operation with us in the effort to consummate the purposes of the founder of said college.

Resolved, That the Rev. H. F. Johnson, President of said college, is entitled to the thanks of this Conference for his generous donation to the Board of Trustees, of all his right and interest in the buildings of Whitworth Female College and the lease thereof yet unexpired; and that the President of this Conference be, and he is, hereby requested to appoint the said Johnson an agent to canvass for subscriptions to a fund to be used in re-embursing the amount paid by him for the construction of the brick Dormitory, and in constituting an endowment fund for said College, at such time as he may think advisable.

Resolved, That the members of this Conference extend all facilities to said Johnson, in their power, and promote as far as practicable, all measures devised by him to carry out the object of his appointment as agent for Whitworth Female College.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We feel that it is one thing to appoint a committee—another, altogether, for that committee to discharge a work satisfactory to the appointing power—it is one to submit a hard question, another to find a solution.

We, as a committee, feel the magnitude of the subject—we recognize the evil of intemperance—its alarming extent; we feel the necessity of the church taking prompt and vigorous steps to check its spread—but, the question is, how shall the church act, what may be done?

This is the task laid upon us—to suggest ways and means for meeting the difficulty, and overcoming the evil we have just mentioned.

We recommend the church to enter upon the organization of temperance societies outside of the church that shall be distinct from and independent of the church for reasons manifest to all. Neither can we advise the creation of such bodies in the church, for the reason that if the spirit of the Discipline be adhered to, the congregation itself will be a temperance society.

It certainly seems to us, that where the Bishops and General Conference of our church refused to proceed, we might do well to pause; thus we might learn lessons of wisdom from their caution, and obtain direction for our guidance in this matter from their interpretation of the Discipline.

They recognized the existence of great principles there which would meet and condemn every evil outcropping from the carnal mind—and this fact, they thought obviated the necessity of special legislation upon new phases of sin constantly appearing in our midst. According to their idea the Discipline meets all—meets the particular evil of Intemperance, without a single provision being added.

When a man joins a Temperance organization he vows to refrain from the use of all intoxicating liquors; but does he not obligate himself to do the same when he subscribes to the three rules of the Discipline? Again, when a man violates his pledge in a temperance society, he is at once expelled. In the Discipline his case is disposed of according to gospel instruction—first there is the duty of the Pastor, in his effort to reclaim and save through affectionate counsel and reproof, then the taking of friends with him, not so much as cold hearted witnesses, as representatives of the solicitude of the church in his behalf; finally, if he be bent upon his sin and ruin, to see that he has no more place with us,

Again, the action of this Conference at their last session, in which they refused to petition our Legislature for certain ends, announcing it to be contrary to our policy as a church, prohibits our suggesting that we memorialize the Legislature to adopt certain measures that would prevent the traffic of liquor in the State.

We feel, therefore, in view of all these things, that we can do no more than to make the following recommendations, believing, as we do, that the Discipline provides fully for all cases of intemperance, we therefore recommend that each Pastor, while filled with a spirit of solicitude for souls, do adhere to and follow out faithfully all the instructions of the Discipline.

Again, that we co-operate with the various temperance organizations, in the bounds of this Conference whenever it is deemed practicable and advisable.

Furthermore, we recommend the various Pastors of this Conference to see that there is introduced into the libraries of the Sunday Schools, the following works: "Wine & Blood," "Ten Nights in a Bar-room" and "Leaves from the Diary of an old Lawyer,"

B. CARRADINE, For the Committee.

REPORT ON THE PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

It is now too late for the Church to be defining her position upon the desirability of a Christian Literature. We may not be able to estimate fully its influence on character and life, or to determine, certainly, the best methods of propagation; but that it is necessary, and that the Church must provide it, is felt everywhere. Our publishing interests have been largely promoted since our last meeting, but no report has been received from the Agent.

The NASHVILLE ADVOCATE deserves and ought to have our cheerful agency. Its columns are full of wholesome instruction, and to it we look, mainly, for a wide range of information. Our own Advocate, after feeling the shock which threatened to prostrate our publishing house, has recovered its strength, and we have every reason to believe that under the joint care of its capable and enterprising publisher, and its veteran editor, we may confidently look for a paper worthy to be welcomed into our families and patronized by our people.

We have reason to be gratified with the wise labor of Dr. Cunningham, the Editor of our Sunday-School literature. He has shown himself eminently fit for his position, and our helps to the study of the Bible, and the development of religious character among our children are not inferior to any.

The QUARTERLY REVIEW is entering upon its second year with increased confidence, and promises to meet our just expectations. We therefore resolve that these several interests demand and should receive increasing effort upon our part for their enlargement and more general introduction among our people.

W. H. WATKINS, Chairman.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved. That the Presiding Elders be requested to urge upon applicants for admission, on trial, into this Conference, the necessity of making preparation for a thorough examination, and of being at the seat of Conference one day before it convenes, in order to be examined.

W. B. LEWIS,
JAS. W. McLAURIN.
Members of the Committee on application for Admission.

AGENT AND HISTORICAL SKETCH OF WHITWORTH FEMALE COLLEGE.

Resolved. That this Annual Conference respectfully requests the Presiding Bishop to appoint Rev. Pinckney A. Johnson Agent of Whitworth Female College, to collect funds for that Institution, under the resolutions heretofore adopted.

Resolved, That the Visiting Committee be and they are instructed to report to the next session of this Conference, a brief historical sketch of Whitworth College, especially as to its original donation, and the further improvement of the premises.

J. W. LAMBUTH AND SMALL CHURCHES IN CHINA.

Resolved. That we most heartily appreciate and commend the faithfulness and zeal with which our beloved brother Lambuth has, for a quarter of a century, devoted himself to the self-sacrificing duties of a Missionary in China.

Resolved, That we thoroughly approve Brother Lambuth's plan of building small churches in the villages and less populous cities of China, as centers from which the gospel may be preached, and from which its influence may radiate; and that we will most cheerfully render him any assistance in our power in carrying forward this, which we believe to be, the most practical and successful plan of spreading the Kingdom of Christ in that vast empire of darkness.

W. L. C. HUNNICUTT,
W. H. WATKINS.

REV. F. M. FEATHERSTUN.

WHEREAS, Brother F. M. Featherstun, who has for years been a Presiding Elder and member of the Mississippi Conference, has been transferred to the Pacific Conference; therefore, be it, by the Presiding Elders and members of the Mississippi Conference,

Resolved, That he leaves us with our best wishes for his health and success in the work of the ministry, and that we commend him to the love and confidence of our brethren on the Pacific coast.

INSTRUCTIONS TO MISSIONARY BOARD.

Resolved. That the Board of Missions be, and it is requested, at the next session of this Conference, to report what Missions it has established, with the consent of the President of the Conference; the extent of said missions, and where located; the necessity for establishing them, and all other facts connected with such missions, which are calculated to inform the Conference and the Church at large.

Resolved, That said Board is also requested to report what has been done looking to the dissemination of missionary intelligence among the people.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER MEMBER FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Resolved, That the preachers in charge of Stations, Circuits and Missions within the bounds of this Conference, are directed to make an earnest effort to raise from each member of the churches under their supervision, the minimum amount of twenty five cents for Foreign Missions.

THE GOSPEL TO COLORED PEOPLE.

Resolved, That it is our duty as ministers, to continue to preach the gospel to the colored people whenever the opportunity is presented, and we can do so without neglecting our own particular work, and also, as formerly, to aid as far as we can, in their moral, religious and intellectual development. H. F. JOHNSON.

STEWARDS TO BE ANNOUNCED.

Resolved, That we recommend that each church, at the first service after the adjournment of this Conference, or as soon thereafter as practicable, announce the Steward or Stewards of that church or charge, accompanying the announcement by some suitable service.

W. L. C. HUNNICUTT,
I. MILLER.

REV. J. J. CLARKE,

WHEREAS, Rev. J. J. Clarke, formerly a member of the Mississippi Conference, and late a Local Elder, was deposed from the ministry, for offenses not involving his moral character, by the Brookhaven Quarterly Conference, in 1878: and, *whereas*, the quarterly conference of the same charge did, in 1879, license Brother Clarke to preach, and did, by a unanimous vote, petition this Conference to restore his credentials; and, *whereas*, brother J. J. Clarke has since died in great peace, therefore,

Resolved, That the Mississippi Conference, concurring in the recommendation of the Quarterly Conference, restores said credentials, and instructs the Secretary to deliver them to his family.

W. B. LEWIS, W. E. M. LINFIELD,
W. H. WATKINS, W. L. C. HUNNICUTT,
WILL H. LEITH, J. T. HEARD,
J. G. JONES, E. H. MOUNGER,
C. G. ANDREWS, J. W. ADKISSON,
J. H. SHELTON.

THANKS.

Resolved, That we, the members of the Mississippi Annual Conference, return thanks to the officers and owners of the Heroine, plying between New Orleans and Moss Point, for favors shown us.

R. B. DOWNER,
G. F. THOMPSON,
W. COOPER.

Resolved, That the thanks of the members of the Conference who attended the entertainment at the Hall, on Saturday evening, last, are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Teachers and Pupils of East Mississippi Female College for said entertainment.

IRVIN MILLER,
P. A. JOHNSON.

Resolved, That our thanks are due and are hereby tendered to the citizens of Meridian, for the very generous hospitality with which they have entertained us.

Resolved, That we gratefully appreciate the courtesies extended to us by the V. & M. R. R., the M. & O. R. R., and the N. O., St. L. & C. R. R., and also, the Steamers Natchez and R. E. Lee.

Resolved, That we gratefully appreciate the courtesies of the Baptist and Presbyterian Churches.

LIST OF APPOINTMENTS.

VICKSBURG DISTRICT.
F. M. WILLIAMS, P. E.

Vicksburg Station—C B Galloway.
Warren—T B Holloman.
Clover Hill—Jas H Shelton.
Rolling Fork—T C Bradford.
Mt Olivet—W W Hurst.
Sunflower Miss.—supplied by R S Gale.
Rocky Springs—C W Campbell.
Cayuga—C A Powell.
Port Gibson—H R Singleton.
Fayette & Martin—D P Bradford and H M DuBose.
Kingston—I D Wall.
Natchez—R S Woodward.
Pt Gibson Collegiate Academy—J A B Jones, President

SEA-SHORE DISTRICT.
T S WEST, P. E.

Moss Point—J M Weems.
Handsboro and Bay St Louis—J W McLaurin.
Pearlington—C W Calhoun,
Sea-shore Circuit—I W Cooper,
East Pascagoula—C FGillespie,
West Pascagoula—J S Calhoun,
Pearl River—D Merchant,
China Grove—R B Downer,
Whittington—Joseph Nicholson.
Mt Carmel—G W Brown.
Westville—Jos T Nicholson,
Enon—L Carley and one to be supplied,
Ellisville Mission to be supplied by T J Miller,

JACKSON DISTRICT.
W L C HUNNICUTT, P. E.

Jackson Station—W H Watkins,
Madison—D C Langford,
Sharon and Thomastown Mission—C D Cecil and Martin Bell,
Camden and Soule—W D Dominick,
Yazoo City—W E Ballard,
Benton and Midway—R Bradley,

WOODVILLE DISTRICT.
J. A. GODFREY, P. E.

Woodville Station—J P Drake.
Wilkinson—T B Brown.
Jackson & Pipkin'sCh'p'l—D M Rush
Winans Circuit—B F Jones.
Clinton Station—C G Andrews.
East Filiciana—I B Robertson.
Bayou Sara—R F Flowers.
East Baton Rouge—R T Davis.
Livingston Mission—E F Edgar.
St Helena—J S Parker.
Covington—Isaac L Peebles and G T Vickers, supernumerary.
Amite—H P Lewis.
North Wilkinson—W W Simmons.
Amite City and Ponchatoula Mission. B S Raynor and M C Calloway.
Centenary College—C G Andrews, President.

BROOKHAVEN DISTRICT.
W E M LINFIELD, P. E.

Brookhaven and Wesson—W B Lewis,
Beauregard—P Howard,
Hazelhurst—W H Leith,
Georgetown—B T Pearson,
Crystal Springs—J L Forsyth,
Spring Ridge—John Lusk,
Bayou Pierre—N B Young,
Brandywine—A M Barrington,
Scotland—H R Caldwell,
Meadville—E F Mullins, and E A Flowers, supernumerary.
McComb City & Summit—W W Hopper.
Magnolia—J W Sandell,
Whitworth College—H F Johnson, Pres't,
Agent Whitworth College—P A Johnson.

BRANDON DISTRICT.
JAS M GANN, P. E.

Brandon Station—B Caradine,
Fannin—J D Hays,
Forest—G F Thompson,
Newton—George Bancroft,
Union—J T Graham,

JACKSON DISTRICT.

Dover—A B Nicholson,
Silver Creek—G A Givens,
Tranquil—L P Meadow.
Brownsville—W C Black,
Canton station—R D Norsworthy,
Raymond—B Jones,

BRANDON DISTRICT.

Walnut Grove—J W Ellison,
Carthage—Supplied by T W Adams,
Leaf River—R A Sibley,
Trenton—C McDonald,
Cato—J H Evans,
Prairie Mission—A D Miller,
Philadelphia—T Y Armstrong,

MERIDIAN DISTRICT.

R. J. Jones, P. E.

Meridian Station—E H Mounger,
Enterprise and Quitman—J T Heard.
Enterprise Mission—A B Steward and one to be supplied by T B Walden,
Shubuta—J J Smylie,
Paulding—D G W Ellis,
Waynesboro—W B Hines,
Wayne—J C Brogan,
Marion—G M Gilmer,
DeKalb—W P Andrews,
Binnville—John Chambers,
Spring Hill—D A Little and J J Lovett,
Shady Grove—J H Holland,
Chickasahay Mission—W W Cammack,
East Mississippi Female College—J W Adkisson, President.
Agent for East Mississippi Female College—John A Ellis.

Missionary to China—J W Lambuth,
Special Agent of Publishing House R Abbey; transferred to Pacific Conference—L R Featherstun and F M Featherstun. Transferred to Los Angelos Conference, L R Featherstun. Transferred to North Texas Conference, H J Harris. Transferred to South Georgia Conference, J B K Smith, and appointed to Louisville. Savana District.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

The statistical report herewith submitted is defective in many particulars, for the reason that many pastors leave blanks unfilled. Some report no church papers, no Sunday-School periodicals, no Sunday-School Library, no monies expended for Sunday Schools. no church sittings and no assessments for any purpose. Inasmuch as the making of assessments for various purposes is a disciplinary requirement, we doubt not that assessments have been made on every charge, missions excepted, and as we have never seen a church without sittings,or known a Sunday School carried on without literature and without any expenditure of money, we suppose that these unfilled blanks are due to the negligence of pastors in making their reports, and we recommend that the Conference request pastors to be more painstaking in the preparation of their statistical reports.

We also recommend the following amendments to the statistical blanks now in use, the insertion of the subjoined items:

1st. No.of members at the beginning of the Conference year.
2d. Accessions by form of discipline.
3d. Accessions by certificate from other churches.
4th. Deaths. 5th. Expelled, removed, withdrawn and dropped.

	Jackson Station W. H. Watkins.	Jackson Ct. Jas. W Hall, Local.	Madison, D. C. Langford	Sharon Ct. T. J. Alexander	Camden Ct. W D Dominick	Yazoo City Sta. W. E. Ballard	Yazoo Ct L R Featherston	Dover, R. Bradley	Silver Creek, W. P. Andrews	Tranquil, A. Day	Brownsville, W. C. Black	Canton Station, R. D. Norsworthy.	Raymond, Benj. Jones	TOTAL.
Present Membership	257	50	154	401	127	112	143	150	112	.....	215	162	119	.....
Local Preachers	.....	2	2	9	....	....	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	...	.....
Adults Baptized	6	....	6	7	3	1	.....	3	12	.....	11	4	7	.....
Infants Baptized	9	....	8	6	7	2	10	5	21	.....	...	12	10	.....
Sunday Schools	1	3	3	1	2	1	3	.....	6	.....	2	11	2	.....
Officers and Teachers	20	12	16	7	18	11	14	.....	20	.....	14	14	14	160
Scholars	150	60	100	40	55	61	100	.....	155	.....	100	86	78	985
Volumes in Library	1000	....	200	100	100	250	.....	.....	150	.....	150	100	160	2210
Sunday School Periodicals Taken	152	.....	96	31	6	130	.....	26	113	.....	45	12	85	696
Church Papers Taken	....	.....	15	25	18	....	.....	.....	24	.....	40	23	12	157
Churches	1	4	4	7	2	1	3	2	2	.....	2	1	3	32
Value of Churches	5000	2000	3000	3200	4000	5000	.....	1100	1150	.....	2000	3500	4000	33950
Sittings	....	.....	850	1000	500	300	.....	400	200	.....	700	350	1000	5300
Parsonages	1	.....	1	.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Value of Parsonages	3000	.....	1000	.....	500	250	.....	200	400	200	1750	1200	800	11650
Other Church Property, Value of	.....	.....	....	.....	....	....	.....	.....	100	.....	....	150	.....	250
Expended for Sunday Schools	120	5	20	8 37	21	50	.....	8 50	25	10	40	25	62	394 80
Expended for Building and Repairing Churches	.....	150	50	.....	2 25	....	123	.....	100	.....	....	.....	.....	425 25
Expended for Build'g and Repair'g Parsonages	260	.....	....	.....	....	....	.....	36	.....	29	240	.....	80	695
Assessed for Foreign Missions	60	.....	30	40	40	....	.....	30	35	.....	50	55	50	340
Collected for Foreign Missions	50 40	.....	30	16 55	40	30	.....	30	11 65	.....	50	46	46 50	350 70
Assessed for Domestic Missions	50	.....	25	15	40	45	.....	25	30	.....	60	45	50	385
Collected for Domestic Missions	40	65	25	5 50	20	45	.....	16 75	10 75	.....	60	41 05	25	289 70
Assessed for Conference Fund	45	.....	22	35	35	50	.....	22	26	.....	45	43	25	348
Collected for Conference Fund	45	.....	22	20	23 50	50	.....	22	13 75	7 25	45	43	13 40	304 90
Pastor's Salary	1250	110	600	275	450	1000	600	550	600	600	800	900	800	8535
Receipts	1250	.....	550	180 65	425	970	500 35	389 80	480	235 35	895	900	543 05	7319 20
Salary of P. E	150	.....	50	100	60	135	125	60	100	75	150	125	100	1230
Receipts	150	.....	50	67 75	56 65	129	108 75	47 50	80	29	150	112 10	80 35	1067 10
Assessed for Bishops	25	.....	12	12	14	25	15	12	12	.....	25	18	12 50	182 50
Collected for Bishops	25	75	12	12	14	25	15	12	12	.....	25	18	12 50	183 25

	Vicksburg, C. B. Galloway	Warren, F. M. Williams	Clover Hill, H. J. Harris Locol	Chotard, H. M. DuBose	Rolling Fork, T. C. Bradford	Mt. Olivet, W. W. Hurst	Sunflower Mis'n R.S. Gale,(local)	Rocky Springs, C. W. Campbell	Cayuga, C. A. Powell	Port Gibson, H. R. Singleton	Fayette, D.P.Bradford	Kingston, J. W. McLaurin	Natchez, R. S. Woodward	TOTAL.
Present Membership	297	297	52	6	100	315	....	266	200	116	405	131	210	2395
Local Preachers	1	.....	1	.....	2	7	....	1	3	.....	6	1	.....	22
Adults Baptized	3	19	4	.....	9	8	....	4	14	6	14	9	8	98
Infants Baptized	9	9	7	.....	4	30	....	6	19	6	20	9	6	125
Sunday Schools	1	5	1	1	3	5	....	4	3	.....	6	3	1	33
Officers and Teachers	26	27	4	2	18	25	....	16	28	15	25	15	18	219
Scholars	150	160	20	12	100	160	....	100	95	89	175	100	73	1234
Volumes in Library	500	100	25	.....	200	140	....	84	50	275	250	150	.....	1574
Sunday School Periodicals Taken	125	36	.....	33	100	64	....	.....	.....	.....	72	37	120	577
Church Papers Taken	.....	25	.....	3	16	46	....	38	22	.....	65	19	40	274
Churches	1	6	1	.....	1	2	....	3	4	1	5	2	1	27
Value of Churches	15000	5000	2000	.....	900	1500	....	3000	4300	16000	7000	9000	25000	88700
Sittings	.....	1150	250	.....	.....	800	....	600	1200	.....	1200	600	800	6600
Parsonages	1	1	1	.....	1	1	....	.....	1	1	1	.....	1	9
Value of Parsonages	2000	600	500	.....	900	450	....	.....	600	2200	1500	.....	2000	10750
Other Church Property, Value of	1000	150	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	300	850	11000	.....	150	.....	13350
Expended for Sunday Schools	190 80	183 40	.....	.....	40	80	....	10	38	35	48	15	75	706 20
Expended Building and Repairing Churches	.....	435	.....	50	.....	.....	....	.....	275	400	85	.....	228	1243
" " Building and Repairing Parsonages	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	100	.....	40	.....	650	790
Assessed for Foreign Missions	70	65	60	.....	60	60	....	50	50	60	60	30	75	640
Collected for Foreign Missions	112	8 70	6 50	.....	15	22	....	35	32	23	60	30	75	420 20
Assessed for Domestic Missions	50	60	50	.....	50	40	....	40	40	40	50	20	50	490
Collected for Domestic Missions	16	6	3	.....	10	16	....	30	30	24	50	22	74 20	281 20
Assessed for Conference Fund	60	45	35	.....	35	45	....	35	35	35	40	25	50	440
Collected for Conference Fund	60	17 75	18 50	.....	15	45	....	35	38	35	40	30	56 50	390 75
Pastor's Salary	1500	662	550	300	600	350	....	450	550	800	700	400	1000	8162
Receipts	1500	662	550	300	650	650	....	450	550	800	700	464 50	1000	8276 50
Salary of P. E	160	125	100	.....	125	125	....	100	100	100	125	55	150	1265
Receipts	160	125	100	.....	125	125	....	100	100	100	125	55	150	1265
Assessedfor Bishops	20	15	15	.....	15	18	....	14	13	15	15	10	20	170
Collected for Bishops	20	15	15	.....	15	18 50	....	10 25	13 25	18	15	10	20	170

SEA SHORE DISTRICT. J. A. ELLIS P. E

	Moss Point, G. F. Thompson	Pearlington, C. W. Calhoun	Sea Shore, W. Cooper	Pascagoula, R. F. Flowers	West Pascagoula, J. S. Calhoun	Covington, J. L. Peebles	Amite City, B. S. Rayner	China Grove, D. A. Givens	Whittington, C. F. Gilleispie	Mt. Carmel, G. W. Brown	Westville, M. C. Collins	Enon, Lyman Carley	Ellisville Miss'n D. J. Miller	Ebenezer Mission,	E. F. Mullins,	TOTAL.
Present Membership	150	148	133	260	235	131	211	329	163	276	262	315	152	49	.....	.....
Local Preachers	1	4	2	1	5	.....	2	.....	3	2	1	9	4	1	.....	.....
Adults Baptized	2	4	.....	7	.....	4	5	15	5	44	19	9	17	.....	.....	.....
Infants Baptized	5	16	15	11	20	70	35	8	34	12	3	47	12	11	.....	.....
Sunday Schools	2	4	2	7	7	6	2	4	4	2	1	5	.....	1	.....	.....
Officers and Teachers	12	31	10	28	21	15	7	10	12	7	3	15	.....	6	.....	.....
Scholars	100	158	80	175	175	124	74	90	75	120	60	150	.....	30	.....	.....
Volumes in Library	....	180	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	30	100	.....	.....	170	.....	.....
S. S. Periodicals taken	....	.....	.....	25	46	21	111	.....	....	60	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....
Church Papers taken	....	20	.....	20	13	62	23	.....	8	31	15	20	4	.....	8	224
Churches	3	2	4	8	8	5	3	4	2	2	3	6	2	2	1	55
Value of Churches	2000	1425	4000	1300	1300	400	1800	2400	506	1000	1150	600	200	150	50	18975
Sittings	650	600	1000	1200	1200	500	1500	.....	350	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7000
Parsonages	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	4
Value of Parsonages	725	1000	.....	.....	.....	.....	500	500	....	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	2875
Other church property, value of	....	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	350	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	410
Expended for Sunday Schools	22	82 40	.....	10	13 45	4	40	10	....	25	.....	4	.....	10 85	.....	221 70
Exp'd for building and repairing churches	....	.....	200	400	500	10 35	95	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1205 35
Expended build'g and repair'g parsonages	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Assessed for Foreign Missions	20	30	.....	20	15	20	30	.....	14	....	20	22 50	7 50	.....	6	205
Collected for Foreign Missions	20	31	40	1	15 50	14	30	23 35	14	15	20	17	7 50	.....	2	250 35
Assessed for Domestic Missions	32	20	.....	15	10	10	20	.....	10	....	15	15	7 50	.....	5	159 50
Collected for Domestic Missions	47	25 30	17	1	10 50	10	20	16 50	10	15	17	12	7 50	.....	2 35	216 15
Assessed for Conference Fund	10	20	.....	7 50	20	10	20	.....	7	....	10	15	7 50	.....	3	130
Collected for Conference Fund	10	22 65	10 25	1 50	20 35	10	20	20 15	7	15	17	12	9 10	.....	2 50	177 80
Pastor's salary	600	600	400	275	272 50	300	500	450	212	375	250	360	100	95	150	4939 50
Receipts	600	600	380	124 70	253 20	267 90	402	247 20	195	334	210 50	182 40	56	11 10	129 40	3983 40
Salary of Presiding Elder	100	100	100	75	54 50	75	100	75	53	75	65	60	25	25	22	1004 50
Receipts	100	100	92	63 10	50 65	67	82 35	35 15	53	65	54 10	30 40	11 15	2 70	7 25	813 85
Assessed for Bishops	10	10	.....	5	10	10	10	.....	7	7 50	7 50	7	3	.....	3	90 60
Collected for Bishops	5	10	6 50	5	10	6 15	10	10	4	4 50	7 50	5 95	3	2 80	3	96 40

BROOKHAVEN DISTRICT, W. E. M. LINFIELD, P. E.

	Brookhaven and Wesson W. B. Lewis	Beauregard, P. Howard	Hazlehurst, T. S. West	Georgetown, A M Barrington	Crystal Springs J. L. Forsyth	Spring Ridge, J. Lusk	Bayou Pierre, N. B. Young	Brandywine, B. T. Pearson	Scotland, H. R. Caldwell	Meadville, W. W. Hopper	Summit, J. H. Shelton	Bogue Chitto Mission, J. Nicholson	TOTAL.
Present Membership	438	314	167	281	240	192	302	525	285	421	228	124	3417
Local Preachers	2	4	1	1	4	....	2	1	2	3	3	3	26
Adults Baptized	31	19	2	10	3	....	24	9	5	20	25	10	158
Infants Baptized	35	34	10	4	10	....	91	10	50	26	12	7	289
Sunday Schools	2	3	1	2	1	2	6	4	1	4	4	3	33
Officers and Teachers	32	20	13	17	14	13	24	18	5	14	22	12	204
Scholars	250	100	110	100	55	55	120	145	35	100	210	75	1425
Volumes in Library	600	100	...	.....	200	100	50	....	40	.....	300	100	1490
Sunday School Periodicals Taken	250	100	...	.....	90	....	50	68	93	76	22	3	634
Church Papers Taken	40	40	...	.....	20	....	20	18	40	130	15	15	328
Churches	2	6	1	4	1	4	4	4	5	6	2	2	41
Value of Churches	5000	50000	2000	1500	2500	1600	2100	1700	3000	1400	2100	200	28100
Sittings	1000	1500	350	1000	350	....	600	800	1000	1500	900	300	9300
Parsonages	1	1	1	.....	1	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	....	5
Value of Parsonages	2500	500	1000	.....	1250	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700	....	5950
Other Church Property, Value of	65000	2000	....	.....	.....	....	400	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	67400
Expended for Sunday Schools	80	40	40	30	35	....	23 35	25	20	8	5	55	321 35
Expended for Building and Repairing Churches	200	25	....	.....	25	....	.....	.....	250	.....	50	....	550
" " for Building and Repairing Parsonages	75	375	100	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	....	570
Assessed for Foreign Missions	65	50	50	36	.....	30	50	35	40	33	25	12	426
Collected for Foreign Missions	70	* 73	50	41 10	25 15	11	50	15	40	12 80	5	5 50	397 55
Assessed for Domestic Missions	50	30	30	24	.....	40	30	15	25	15	20	12	291
Collected for Domestic Missions	50	30	30	21 15	15 35	15	30	10	25	11 25	5	6	248 75
Assessed for Conference Fund	50	35	35	26	.....	25	35	25	30	25	2	15	321
Collected for Conference Fund	50	40	35	27 50	22 10	15	35	20	30	13	10	6	303 60
Pastor's Salary	600	500	500	425	600	560	440	330	600	260	700	200	5700
Receipts	600	500	500	425	600	402 50	440	333 85	573 50	230	500	103	5207 85
Salary of P. E	130	100	100	75	100	80	75	65	80	60	85	40	990
Receipts	130	100	100	75	100	58 25	75	50	80	53 25	37 50	22 50	881 50
Assessed for Bishops	20	15	15	15	15	10	15	10	12	10	10	5	152
Collected for Bishops	20	15	12 85	15	15	5 35	10	10	12	10	5 50	4	134 70

* $23 of the above was paid by R. C. T. S. Hilliard.

WOODVILLE DISTRICT, J. A. GODFREY, P. E.

	Woodville, J. P. Drake.	Wilkinson, T. W. Brown.	Jackson and Pipkin's, C. G. Andrews.	B. F. Jones Concord,	Winnus and T. B. Holloman	Clinton,	East Feliciana, I. R. Robertson.	Bayou Sara, C. D. Cecil	East Baton Rouge R. T. Davis	Livingston, J. C. Williams Local.	St. Helena, J. S. Parker	Magnolia, J. W. Sandell	Amite, H. P. Lewis	Buffalo, W. W. Simmons	TOTAL.
Present Membership	116	275	314	168	141	380	108	312	257	440	200	437	264	3412	
Local Preachers		2	4		1			1	1	1	1	3	1	15	
Adults Baptized	7	12	11	9	3	30	7	9		32	7	42	7	176	
Infants Baptized	13	4	25	8	13	45	15	22	13	31	22	35	13	259	
Sunday Schools	4	1	4	2	2	7	1	2	1	8	1	6	3	42	
Officers and Teachers	15	4	23	9	15	25	6	6	4	30	8	26	9	180	
Scholars	120	25	177	58	100	150	26	30	32	314	45	235	39	1351	
Volumes in Library	400	26	70	38	300	200	52			164	72	150		1472	
Sunday School Periodicals Taken	136		80	24	36	55	26	6	1	119		80	13	576	
Church Papers Taken	26	20	54	23	15	42		15	13	43		20	15	286	
Churches	1	4	2	2	1	5	2	3	5	5	3	4	5	42	
Value of Churches	3500	6000	6200	1000	2000	2600	2000	2000	1200	6500	1000	2000	3000	40500	
Sittings	400	1000	1000	600	200	800	250	1200	2500	1500	800	1250	1500	13000	
Parsonages	1	1			1		1	1		1			1	7	
Value of Parsonages	3000	1200			1500		800	500		500			300	7800	
Other Church Property, Value of			80000						15	60				80075	
Expended for Sunday Schools	41 15		12	13 75	25 00	50		8	12	30	10	30	15	246 90	
Expended for Building and Repairing Churches	4 50	170						5		150				329 50	
Expended for Build'g and Repair'g Parsonages	129 30	30			30	100				60		300		639 30	
Assessed for Foreign Missions	75	30	62 50	10	42 50	30	25	42	25	62 50	30		30	464 50	
Collected for Foreign Missions	*54 55	35 65	77 40	11 20	45	30	25	8	5	19	20	20	22 70	373 50	
Assessed for Domestic Missions	45	18	37 50	6	25 50	20	15	25	15	32 50	18		18	275 50	
Collected for Domestic Missions	19 55	21 40	37 50	10 35	26 25	20	15	9	8 20	13	15	20	16	231 25	
Assessed for Conference Fund	25	15	32 50	7 50	25 50	20	12 50	22 50	12 50	32 50	15		15	235 50	
Collected for Conference Fund	25 75	19 40	56 80	8 00	25 50	20	18	6	500	39 50	13	19 50	15	264 45	
Pastor's Salary	700	500	800	225	600	550	500	390	200	500	300	400	400	6065	
Receipts	612 55	339	537 35	209 85	500	450	321	272 15	105 80	441	276 50	361 40	378 70	4805 30	
Salary of P. E	125	60	125	20	85	80	50	85	50	125	60	100	60	1045	
Receipts	110 75	42 50	82 25	18 65	70 85	60	31 85	40	26 45	90	55 50	72 30	56 80	757 90	
Assessed for Bishops	15	6	13	300	9	9	5	9	5	11	6		6	97	
Collected for Bishops	15 10	6	1455	300	9	9	5	4 10	5	11	8 25	10	6	105 45	

* Of this amount $21 were paid by the Sunday School.

	Brandon, B. Carradine.	Fannin, I. D. Hays.	Forest, I. J. Smylie.	Newton, C. McDonald.	Union, J. H. Holland.	Walnut Grove, I. W. Ellison.	Carthage, T. W. Adams Local.	Leaf River, J. H. Evans	Trenton, R. A. Sibley	Rankin, P. A. Johnston	Prairie Missions A. D. Miller Local.	TOTAL.
Present Membership	130	356	381	320	300	522	274	420	443	466	160	3772
Local Preachers	.....	1	4	2	2	6	5	3	1	4	2	30
Adults Baptized	4	5	8	9	6	9	8	13	18	36	12	128
Infants Baptized	8	3	3	2	5	4	3	45	14	29	25	141
Sunday Schools	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	6	4	5	4	33
Officers and Teachers	8	20	16	18	8	8	8	26	20	25	10	167
Scholars	52	87	134	155	120	60	75	270	95	110	80	1238
Volumes in Library	200	128	.....	100	150	.....	....	114	50	.....	....	742
Sunday School Periodicals Taken	36	51	50	103	25	22	....	.....	60	15	....	362
Church Papers Taken	.....	10	24	.....	12	34	....	25	20	43	11	191
Churches	1	4	5	6	....	6	4	6	7	6	2	47
Value of Churches	10000	4000	7000	4500	....	2454	800	3075	2000	2000	450	36475 00
Sittings	400	1000	1200	1600	....	1200	500	1000	1550	1500	300	10250
Parsonages	.....	.....	1	1	1	1	....	.....	1	.....	....	5
Value of Parsonages	.....	.....	600	300	250	300	....	.....	250	.....	....	1700 00
Other Church Property, Value of	900	200	.....	400	125	.....	....	.....	.....	.....	....	1625 00
Expended for Sunday Schools	100	10	49	.....	12	8 10	....	15	10	30	6	231 10
Expended for Building and Repairing Churches	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	150	60	.....	60	....	270 00
" " for Building and Repairing Parsonages	.....	.....	.....	.....	....	.....	....	.....	12	.....	....	12 00
Assessed for Foreign Missions	45	40	50	.....	25	50	....	44	44	44	5	347 00
Collected for Foreign Missions	45	15 75	27	.....	3	25 75	10	8	9	37	5 80	186 30
Assessed for Domestic Missions	30	29	32	32	25	37	....	28	28	28	10	279 00
Collected for Domestic Missions	15	12	17 25	5 35	4	9 10	2	4	5	24	10 85	108 55
Assessed for Conference Fund	20	16	19	18	14	19	....	16	16	16	9	163 00
Collected for Conference Fund	20	18	10 25	16	4 20	17 25	5	6	11	20	5 80	133 50
Pastor's Salary	.....	500	665	500	325	550	315	500	375	500	120	4350 00
Receipts	393	352 15	577 80	178	129 95	356 55	183 80	254 80	270 85	417 75	188 50	3303 15
Salary of P. E	100	100	110	110	75	110	75	100	75	100	....	955 00
Receipts	100	70 55	96 30	37	26	71 35	43 20	52	54 15	83 55	....	634 10
Assessed for Bishops	12	8	12	12	7	12	....	8	8	8	3	90 00
Collected for Bishops	12	8	12	12	7	12	....	8	8	8 35	3	90 35

	Meridian, E. H. Mounger	Enterprise Station, J. T. Heard	Enterprise Ct. G. Bancroft	Shubuta, J. M. Weems	Paulding, J. M. Gann	Waynesboro, W. B. Hines	Wayne, D. G M. Ellis	Marion, G. M. Gilmore	Philadelphia, J. C. Brogan	DeKalb, A. B. Nicholson	Spring Hill D. A. Little	Shady Grove Mission, I. Z. Armstrong	Chickasahay Mission, S. Goff	TOTAL.
Present Membership	220	262	350	365	555	233	497	439	428	463	477	139	108	.....
Local Preachers	2	2	4	3	1	....	6	3	2	1	3	3	1	.....
Adults Baptized	7	21	35	8	27	22	7	6	42	48	9	.....	1	.....
Infants Baptized	4	12	12	5	10	8	21	15	40	41	11	17	2	.....
Sunday Schools	1	2	7	4	5	3	6	8	8	5	3	2	2	.....
Officers and Teachers	20	20	15	31	21	17	30	24	32	24	15	10	6	.....
Scholars	160	86	140	193	195	130	321	280	222	100	101	55	50	.....
Velumes in Library	150	100	30	....	292	161	.....	.....	300	312	30	120	16	.....
Sunday School Periodicals Taken	235	150	8	158	21	92	320	96	530	.....	.....	.....	7	1611 00
Church Papers Taken	30	....	9	30	28	26	14	56	25	.....	.....	9	1	228 00
Churches	1	2	8	6	7	1	8	9	7	.....	8	.....	1	58 00
Value of Churches	2500	1050	1200	3150	2550	1000	2100	2000	1450	46 00	48 00	.....	125	26525 00
Sittings	400	450	1300	1400	2000	400	2500	2000	2000	.....	2000	.....	110	14860 00
Parsonages	1	1	....	1	1	1	1	1	.....	2	1	.....	.....	10
Value of Parsonages	1509	600	....	1200	200	600	200	150	.....	550	550	.....	.....	5550 00
Other Church Property. Value of	10000	....	....	.....	200	800	.....	200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11200 00
Expended for Sunday Schools	75	36	15	34 15	9 50	115	75	9 10	40 50	25 96	17	.....	3	455 15
Expended for Building and Repairing Churches	500	265 35	....	852	350	55	40	66 25	20	100	275	.....	.....	2723 60
Expended for Build'g and Repair'g Parsonages	100	12	....	830	6	....	.....	65 35	.....	300 00	450 00	.....	.....	1763 35
Assessed for Foreign Missions	75	45	25	35	50	40	20	25	30	35 00	30 00	15 00	5 00	430 00
Collected for Foreign Missions	53	20 45	7	35	28 25	40	13 50	20 75	20	15 90	16 00	4 60	.....	274 45
Assessed for Domestic Missions	25	30	20	20	35	25	20	20	20	29 00	30 00	20 00	5 00	299 00
Collected for Domestic Missions	20	7 50	3	20	26 25	25	10	20	15	15 00	13 00	3 75	4 00	182 50
Assessed for Conference Fund	40	30	20	25	40	30	20	20	25	25 00	25 00	15 00	5 00	320 00
Collected for Conference Fund	40	20 10	12 20	26	26 10	30	20	20	15	19 55	13 00	5 20	1 50	248 65
Pastor's Salary	800	60	290	600	1000	600	440	400	435	620 00	600 00	125 00	140 00	6650 00
Receipts	800	600	249 50	503	495	600	317 60	315 35	400	560 80	453 00	65 00	60 00	5419 25
Salary of P. E.	160	110	60	100	120	110	60	60	65	75 00	100 00	25 00	10 00	1055 00
Receipts	160	110	41	83 80	60 20	110	43 40	45 10	60	53 20	75 80	13 00	10 00	865 20
Assessed for Bishops	18	15	5	12 50	12 50	10	10	8	8	10 00	12 50	4 00	5 00	130 50
Collected for Bishops	18	5	5	12 50	11 20	10	10	8	8	10 00	11 80	3 00	.....	112 50

RECAPITULATION.

	Vicksburg District, W. L. C. Hunniott	Woodville District, J. A. Godfrey	Brookaven District, W. E. M. Linfield	Brandon District, W. H. Leith.	Meridian District, R. J. Jones.	Sea Shore District, J. A. Ellis.	Jackson District, F. M. Featherstun	TOTAL, 1879.	TOTAL, 1878.	Increase.	Decrease.
Present Membership	2395	3412	3417	3772	4536	2923	2002	22457	2150	952	.....
Local Preachers	22	15	26	30	31	30	16	170	162	18	.....
Adults Baptized	98	176	158	128	933	140	60	1053	817	236	.....
Infants Baptized	125	259	289	141	198	339	90	1441	1018	423	.....
Sunday Schools	33	42	33	33	56	47	25	269	241	28	.....
Officers and Teachers	219	180	204	167	265	177	160	1372	1281	91	.....
Scholars	1234	1351	1425	1238	2033	1411	985	9677	8257	1420	.....
Volumes in Library	1574	1472	1490	742	1510	580	2210	9578	13618	.....	4140
Sunday School Periodicals Taken	577	576	634	360	1617	273	696	4733	.....	.....	.....
Church Papers Taken	274	286	328	191	228	224	157	1688	.....	.....	.....
Churches	27	42	41	47	58	55	32	302	316	.....	14
Value of Churches	88700	40050	28100	36479	26525	18975	33950	272779	281481	8702	.....
Sittings	6600	13000	9300	10250	14860	7000	5300	66310	.....	.....	.....
Parsonages	9	7	5	5	10	4	10	50	46	4	.....
Value of Parsonages	10750	7800	5950	1700	5550	2875	11650	46275	45650	625	.....
Other Church Property, Value of	2650	80075	67400	1625	11200	410	250	163610	157600	6010	.....
Expended for Sunday Schools	706 20	246 90	321 35	239 10	455 15	221 90	394 85	2585 25	1614 95	970 50	.....
Expended Building and Repairing Churches	1243	329 50	550	270	2723 60	1205 35	425 25	6746 70	.....	.....	.....
" " Building and Repairing Parsonages	790	639 30	570	12	1763 35	75	695	4544 65	.....	.....	.....
Assessed for Foreign Missions	640	464 50	426	374	430	205	390	2929 50	.....	.....	.....
Collected for Foreign Missions	420 20	373 50	397 55	186 30	274 45	255	350 70	2257 70	1639 35	618 35	.....
Assessed for Domestic Missions	490	275 50	291	279	299	159 50	385	2179	.....	.....	.....
Collected for Domestic Missions	281 20	231 25	248 75	108 55	182 50	216 15	289 70	1558 10	1192 70	365 40	.....
Assessed for Conference Fund	440	235 50	321	163	320	130	348	1957 50	.....	.....	.....
Collected for Conference Fund	390 75	264 45	303 60	133 50	248 65	177 80	304 20	1822 95	1535 85	287 10	.....
Pastor's Salary	8162	6065	5700	4350	6650	4939 50	8535	44401 50	49564	.....	.....
Receipts	8276	4805 30	5207 85	3303 15	5419 25	3983 40	7319 20	38314 15	32355	5959 15	.....
Salary of P. E	1265	1045	990	955	1055	1004 50	1230	7544 50	8065 25	.....	520 75
Receipts	1265	757 90	881 50	634 10	865 20	813 85	1067 10	6384 65	5240 98	1143 60	.....
Assessed for Bishops	170	97	152	90	130 50	90	182 50	922	.....	.....	.....
Collected for Bishops	170	105 45	134 70	90 35	112 50	96 40	183 25	892 65	891 45	1 20	.....